



# FAQ – General – 1/5/2022

## Frequently Asked Questions Infrastructure Law and Authorities

**Question:** Where can I find more information on Reclamation's implementation of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law?

**Answer:** Reclamation has established an internet page at [Bipartisan Infrastructure Law | Bureau of Reclamation \(usbr.gov\)](#) ([www.usbr.gov/bil](http://www.usbr.gov/bil)).

**Question:** If we have more questions, how do we contact Reclamation?

**Answer:** Please send emails to [usbr.bil@usbr.gov](mailto:usbr.bil@usbr.gov) and we will get back with you as soon as possible. Some questions require internal outreach and coordination; please allow up to 2 days for a response.

**Question:** Where can I find recorded Stakeholder or Tribal presentations?

**Answer:** Recorded presentations are provided at [Bipartisan Infrastructure Law | Bureau of Reclamation \(usbr.gov\)](#). Please scroll down the page to see the recorded and any future sessions.

**Question:** How do I sign up to receive notification about funding opportunities?

**Answer:** We will continue to follow our normal protocol for announcements that we use currently under WaterSMART. This includes using press releases, the WaterSMART website at [WaterSMART | Bureau of Reclamation \(usbr.gov\)](#), and direct emails to entities that have signed up to be on our email list, at [WaterSMART@usbr.gov](mailto:WaterSMART@usbr.gov). We will update this response with links to announcements regarding funding opportunities for other program areas as soon as they are developed.

**Question:** Is there a direct spending opportunity or only competitive grant opportunities for the Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration and Multi-benefit Projects?

**Answer:** We are in the process of reviewing and interpreting these new authorities internally and with our Solicitors. There will be an opportunity to comment on our draft plan for allocating this funding later in 2022.

**Question:** Can you please explain if/how 40910 could be used by tribes to help determine if ASR might be feasible, which would maybe be an appraisal level or less evaluation.

**Answer:** Our preliminary read is that Section 40910 would be implemented contingent on appropriations—as it appears targeted to construction, rather than study, of projects already found feasible. For a tribal proposal for an Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) project, including study, it could be more appropriate to pursue a study under Section 40903 (for small surface water storage and groundwater storage projects). Competitive criteria will be published during 2022, and meantime, Reclamation can assist tribes with specific inquiries at the local office level.



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**Question:** How do I find more information on the Extraordinary Maintenance (XM) projects funding opportunity that opened on December 16th, 2021 and closes January 31st, 2022 that would list the criteria, eligible entities, and ability to apply?

**Answer:** The Aging Infrastructure / Extraordinary Maintenance (XM) funding and application period applies to Reclamation-owned infrastructure. A traditional funding opportunity will not be posted on [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov), rather, Reclamation is using an internally facilitated external application process as prescribed by Title XI, Section 1101 of PL 116-260. Reclamation's area offices will lead the outreach to local Reclamation contractors and operating partners to identify and propose projects for funding as referenced in the [December 29, 2021 news release](#). This will allow a collaborative process to identify and propose projects, rather than projects being pre-determined by Reclamation. Implementation of the Infrastructure Law's Section 40904 funding for Critical Maintenance and Repair will follow this process, prescribed by PL 116-260. Please let contact [USBR.BIL@usbr.gov](mailto:USBR.BIL@usbr.gov) if you have any additional questions or need help connecting with one of Reclamation's area offices.